

REMARKS

Claims 31-43 are pending. Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action dated February 7, 2007 ("Office Action") in this Application. Applicants present the above amendments and following remarks in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-30 in this Response. Applicants have added New Claims 31-43 in this Response. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview conducted on May 3, 2007. During the interview, the above amendments were discussed.

Claim 1-30 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. *See* Office Action, Page 2. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Nevertheless, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-30 in this Response. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections are now moot.

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. *See* Office Action, Page 2. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Nevertheless, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-30 in this Response. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections are now moot.

As described above, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-30 from further consideration in this Application. Applicants do not concede in this Application that cancelled Claims 1-30 are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner or the art of record, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter

herein. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Applicants have added new Claims 31-43 in this Response. New independent Claim 31 recites “a floating point unit (FPU)” comprising the unique combination of “an exponent logic (EL), comprising, in part, “a 3-way compound adder configured to receive the carry signal, the sum signal, and the signal Ez, and to generate a first EL output signal S0, a second EL output signal S1, and a third EL output signal S2 based on the received carry signal, sum signal and signal Ez;” and “wherein the signal S0 represents an exponent value ‘e’, the signal S1 represent the exponent value ‘e+1’, and the signal S2 represents the exponent value ‘e+2’.” The FPU further comprises, “an exponent adjust and rounding logic (EAD) coupled to the EL and to a result generator, the EAD configured to receive the signals S0, S1, and S2, an inverted anticipated leading zero shift signal (!LZA), a corrected leading zero shift signal (LZA_CORR), and a special case signal,” with the EAD further configured to “transmit the results select signal, and the signals E2A and E2B to the result generator.” Support for these amendments can be found, among other places, at Page 10, lines 8-28 and Page 11, lines 13-15, of the Original Application.

Applicants respectfully submit that new Claim 31 is clearly and precisely patentable over the references of record, alone or in any combination. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that new Claim 31 be allowed.

New dependent Claims 32-43 depend on and further limit Claim 31. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that dependent Claims 32-43 are allowable for at least the same reason that Claim 31 is allowable. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that new Claims 32-43 also be allowed.

Applicants have now addressed all of the Claim objections and rejections cited in the Office Action. In view of the amendments to the Claims and Applicants' remarks, Applicants believe that pending Claims 31-43 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request allowance of Claims 31-43.

Applicants believe no additional fees are due in this Response. In the event that any other fees are due, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 09-0447 of IBM Corporation.

Applicants believe that the present Response contains a complete response to the issues raised in the Office Action. Applicants respectfully request full reconsideration. If the Examiner should have any questions, comments or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference. In particular, should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to place this application in condition for allowance, Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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